

Governor's Awards for Volunteerism and Service

2012 Award Categories and Criteria

Senior Volunteer Service Award: Recognizes an individual (ages 65 and older) who has met a community need in an innovative and effective manner. The nominee may have demonstrated exceptional ability and have made a great impact through changed lives and/or community conditions as a result of service efforts.

Volunteer Service Award: Recognizes an individual (ages 19-64) who has met a community need in an innovative and effective manner. The nominee may have demonstrated exceptional ability and have made a great impact through changed lives and/or community conditions as a result of service efforts.

Youth Volunteer Service Award: Recognizes a youth (ages 18 or younger) who has demonstrated significant contributions to volunteer efforts/programs. The nominee may serve as a role model and inspiration to other volunteers.

Group Volunteer Service Award: Recognizes a group of individuals or organizations that come together on their own to make a difference in their community. This may be a one-time service project or ongoing effort.

Challenge Award: Recognizes an individual who has overcome significant personal obstacles in order to engage in volunteer service. These obstacles may include anything from physical and/or mental challenges to significant time constraints.

Volunteer Coordinator Award: Recognizes a paid or volunteer manager who exemplifies solid volunteer management skills, such as in volunteer training, risk management, screening, recognition, evaluation and retention of volunteers.

National Service Award: Recognizes an individual member and/or group of members of a national service program (AmeriCorps, AmeriCorps VISTA, AmeriCorps NCCC or Senior Service Corps) who have demonstrated service beyond standard expectations of the designated program. This individual and/or group provides an extraordinary example of the AmeriCorps spirit.

Corporate Award: Recognizes a business that has made a substantial impact through innovation, volunteer hours, number of volunteers, monetary support, etc. It may recognize the historical record of supporting volunteerism through policies and practices. The nomination must be able to demonstrate ongoing community or statewide impact.

Nonprofit Organization Award: Recognizes a nonprofit organization that manages an exceptional volunteer program that has made a significant impact on the community.

Faith-Based Group Award: Recognizes a group that volunteers through a faith-based community organization. The group may serve members of or populations outside the service-sponsoring faith community. The nomination must demonstrate significant volunteer outreach.

Lifetime Achievement Award: Recognizes a lifelong commitment to volunteerism and community service at a variety of levels. Nominees must have made a substantial and sustained impact in the community as a result of their service efforts.

Kentucky Ambassador Award: Recognizes a Kentuckian whose primary volunteer service is outside of Kentucky and/or the United States. A Kentucky Ambassador nominee must have provided outstanding volunteer service and through this service promoted Kentucky as a "Commonwealth of Caring."

First Lady's Award: Recognizes a Kentuckian who has gone out of his or her way to assist youth in their efforts to graduate from high school. This may have been done through mentoring, time spent tutoring or advising a student in need of assistance or by working directly with a school to help children gain their diplomas.